

plans that eventually there will be a community college within commuting distance of 94 per cent of Maryland's public high school graduates. In dedicating a new Fine Arts Center on the campus of the University of Maryland last May, Dr. Wilson H. Elkins, the President of the University, had this to say: ". . . there is impressive evidence to show that Governor Tawes has used sound fiscal policy to provide the educational need of the State and that his administration will be heralded for the advancement of all education, and particularly the progress of the University of Maryland."

Let's look now at State roads. Never before in history has such an enormous program in road building been undertaken. With the awarding of 27 contracts in August, the total money that Maryland has invested in highways since January, 1959, reached \$708,287,556. This almost triples the amount spent for roads during the previous eight years. With projects such as the \$120 million Appalachian Freeway and the \$250 million interstate system within Baltimore City on the drawing board, Mr. John B. Funk, the Chairman-Director of the State Roads Commission, promises that our roads program, over our eight years in office, will exceed \$1 billion. Since I took office in January, 1959, the motor vehicle registration in Maryland has increased by 50.7 per cent. During the same period, the total book value of highways that Maryland is keeping pace with the demands of motorists and others for better and safer highways.

And what of health? And mental hygiene? As in education and road building, the State's mushrooming population, reaching 3,590,180 in 1965, looks to a responsible administration to provide for a wide range of programs and new legislation to meet the increasing health needs of communities. Within the time allotted here, it would not be possible to offer a comprehensive review of all the public health activities, but I should like to list a few highlights. In 1959, the State took a big step in its aid to health care by adopting a new policy under which reimbursement to hospitals for patient care was related directly to the individual hospital's actual cost. Previously, all hospitals, regardless of the scope of services and variation in costs, were paid the same amount per patient day. The new formula reimbursed the hospitals for 80 per cent of the actual costs. In the budget for this year, Maryland took measures to utilize available matching funds under the federal Medicare Program to provide maximum health benefits for Maryland citizens. As a result, hardpressed hospitals now will receive 100 per cent of cost for both inpatient and outpatient care. To be noted also is the \$50 million hospital construction land approved by